

**Natural Heritage Trust Fund  
Spring 2007 Awards Summary**

No.	Agency	Project Title	County	Award	Acres	Description
1	DACS/ PCP	Eastwood Plant Conservation Preserve	Moore	\$500,000	47	Requesting funds to add approximately 46 acres to the recently established Eastwood Plant Conservation Preserve (formerly NC 73 Power line). This tract is a key portion of the Preserve design which features upland longleaf pine and streamhead seepage wetlands, as well as the Sandhills Lily, a globally rare & state endangered species. NOTE: the location of this plant is "data sensitive" due to potential for poaching and theft. Please be cautious with information regarding this location.
2	DACS/ PCP	Dulany Bog Plant Conservation Preserve	Jackson	\$650,000	39	Requesting funds to purchase and protect a recently discovered population of Fraser's Loosestrife (a globally rare, state endangered species). Tract also supports a portion of Southern Appalachian Bog and wetlands along the East Fork of the Chattooga River, a National Wild & Scenic River. Tract is a key inholding within the Dulany Bog SNHA and Nantahala National Forest and protection of the tract is supported by several agencies. Option expires 4/30/07.
3	DACS/ PCP	Schulkens Savanna Plant Conservation Preserve	Columbus	\$716,000	631	Requesting funds for fee simple acquisition of 2 Keystone Properties (former Plum Creek Timber Co.) tracts which represent the majority of the Schulkens Savanna SNHA. This proposed preserve supports at least 4 state listed plant species & one of the few known examples of a very rare longleaf pine savanna community type. The primary objective will be to restore longleaf pine savanna as habitat for the rare species through reintroduction of fire & other means as necessary. Only partial funding awarded for the northern tract of 308 acres. Original request was for \$2,050,000.
	<b>DACS/ PCP</b>		<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,866,000</b>	<b>716</b>	
4	DENR/ DPR	Hickory Nut Gorge State Park-Phase IV	Rutherford	\$2,500,000	138	Request funds for the acquisition of 138 acres for the recently authorized Hickory Nut Gorge State Park. Acquisition will preserve much of the nationally important Chimney Rock Park natural heritage areas. Acreage is part of the Southeastern Escarpment Megasite and the Hickory Nut Gorge Macrosite; project is part of a larger effort including The Nature Conservancy's Bat Cave and Rumbling Bald Preserves. Matching funds committed \$22,200,000 and \$1,500,000 requested.
5	DENR/ NHP	Continuation of County- & Protection Focused Natural Area Inventories	Multiple	\$300,000		Request funds to support the county-wide and protection-focused natural area inventories. Funds will be used to support existing NHP staff during 2008-2010 & to contract with local land trusts. Information/data gained from these inventories will be provided to land conservation agencies, local governments & other organizations for site specific & regional conservation planning initiatives. Covers a 3-year project. Due to limited funds, only 1st YEAR committed at this time. Original grant request - \$900,000.
6	DENR/ NHP	Continuation of Inventory of Aquatic Significant Natural Areas	Statewide	\$81,000		Requesting additional funding of \$243,000 to fund the inventory & conservation planning of NC aquatic natural areas. Aquatic ecosystems are the most threatened of NC natural systems. The quality of our aquatic ecosystems is so degraded that nearly 30% of our native species of fishes, mussels and crayfishes are threatened with extinction. This project will continue to identify and facilitate conservation of the most significant aquatic natural heritage areas, thus slowing further decline of aquatic species. Covers 3 years and is matched by \$48,000 per year by WRC. Due to limited funds, only 1st YEAR committed at this time. Original grant request - \$243,000.

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7	DENR/ DPR	Sandy Run Savannas State Natural Area-RMK Tract	Onslow	\$172,500	48	Request funds for the acquisition of 48 acres at Sandy Run Savannas State Natural Area. Acquisition of this property would help protect water quality in the Cape Fear River basin, conserve unique coastal plain habitats & buffer Camp Lejeune from encroaching development. According to EEP, Sandy Run lies within one of the largest nearly contiguous natural areas in NC. Matching funds committed \$135,000; requested \$200,000. Remaining funds (\$27,500) to come from Military Support Grant.
8	DENR/ DFR	Rendezvous Mountain Educational State Forest - McElwee Acquisition	Wilkes	\$480,000	266	To acquire and conserve the 315 acres of the McElwee tracts. This would be an opportunity for the State to permanently protect 266 acres of the high public use & historic portion of Rendezvous Mountain Educational State Forest (RMESF)'s main ridgetop with its natural communities on the northern boundary. The landowner approached DFR with a proposal to sell due to his desire to see the property permanently protected and as an inclusion to RMESF. RMESF is managed as a living laboratory where visitors learn about sustainable forest management & the natural resources it provides. DFR is also seeking a match of \$194,200 from CWMTF. Granted half of request (\$959,246) due to limited fund available. DPR will need to reapply in Fall for remaining funds.
9	DENR/ DPR	Elk Knob State Natural Area Land Acquisitions	Southwestern Ashe & Northern Watauga	\$780,000	363	The acquisitions will help protect several of the peaks that ring Long Hope Valley including the southeastern side of Elk Knob, Rittle Knob & Big Knob. Three high quality natural communities, including the rare Beech Gap subtype of the Northern Hardwood Forest natural community, have been identified in the project area. Two rare animals & ten rare plants have also been documented across the project area. Matching funds committed \$756,000; requested \$620,000. Partially funded the \$3,280,000 request.
	<b>DENR</b>		<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,313,500</b>	<b>815</b>	
10	DCR	Contentnea Creek Archaeological Preserve Land Acquisition	Wilson	\$175,000	63	DCR, working jointly with the Archaeological Conservancy, will purchase the 63 acre site in fee simple & establish it as a permanently protected archaeological research preserve, accessible to the public by permission only and to archaeologists for research. This project will preserve a significant Native American archeological site and cultural resource in Wilson county. Site may also have natural area significance - TBD. Additional funding to be raised by the Archaeological Conservancy (\$101,000). Note savings of \$70,000 through bargain sale by owner.
11	DCR	Valle Crucis-Mast General Store & Mission Ridge	Watauga	\$880,000	35	DCR will acquire 34.8 acres of highly visible ridgeline property known as Mission Ridge, overlooking the Valle Crucis National Register Historic District, as part of a long-term project to protect and preserve the scenic character of this rural community. This phase builds on the collaborative efforts of DCR, the High Country Conservancy, The Conservation Fund, and the Natural Heritage Trust Fund, which has to date resulted in the acquisition of easements and/or ownership of approximately 400 acres in the surrounding upper valley of Valle Crucis. The successful completion of this property acquisition will result in the donation of a preservation easement to the state on the historic Mast General Store in Valle Crucis. Additional funds at \$220,000 will come from High Country Conservancy and The Conservation Fund.

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12	DCR	Cedar Grove Land Acquisition	Mecklenburg	\$150,000	4	To acquire 4 acres surrounding the historic Cedar Grove House, as part of a collaborative project with the Trust for Public Land, the Clean Water Management Trust Fund, and Mecklenburg County to acquire and protect the remaining 38 acres of the original 1400 acre plantation. Built 1831-1833, the house is one of the Piedmont's most architecturally significant dwellings. Its historic agricultural setting is now seriously threatened by rapid suburban growth north of Charlotte. CWMTF (pending grant request \$636,800) will acquire 18 acres along McDowell Creek, while Mecklenburg Co. (proposed \$551,500) will acquire 16 acres of upland property. The owner will retain the house and a 1-acre lot, and place an historic easement on the house and lot.
13	DCR	Glencoe Mill Village Historic District Land Acquisition	Alamance	\$170,000	33	DCR proposes to purchase 33 acres of undeveloped land located within the Glencoe Mill Village in Alamance County. DCR would then lease the land to Alamance county to manage as a public park with passive recreation opportunities such as trails, picnic areas and canoe/kayak access to the Haw River. The Glencoe Mill & Mill Village, built in 1880-82 is one of the most intact historic industrial sites in NC. The area is now rapidly developing and its historic rural character is threatened. Protecting this land will preserve Glencoe's rural context, while providing public recreational and educational opportunities. Partially funded; applicant encouraged to seek additional funding from other sources.
	<b>DCR</b>		<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,375,000</b>	<b>135</b>	
14	WRC	Interest on International Paper Projects		\$213,375		4 Project Areas were funded in Fall 2006 to acquire lands previously-owned by International Paper (Upper Tar, Lower Roanoke, Chowan River and Johnson's Landing). Total award was \$4,263,698. Requested funding did not include interest charges. This request is for interest charges for these projects assuming a June 2007 close date. This represents 12% of the actual interest, proportional to NHTF share of the acquisition. Proposed CWMTF match of \$771,804 and Confirmed WRC match of \$732, 936.
15	WRC	Upper Tar River International Paper Tracts-Phase II	Upper Tar-Pamlico River Basin; Warren, Halifax, Franklin, Nash, and Edgecombe Counties	\$1,779,482	1103	To acquire SNHA land: Fishing Creek Aquatic Habitat, Little Fishing Creek/Odell Hardwood Forest, Shocco Creek Aquatic Habitat, Little Shocco Creek Aquatic Habitat, Shocco Creek/Centerville Floodplain Forest, Shocco Creek/Licksillet Hardwood Forest and Lower Shocco Creek Bluffs and Floodplain Forest. Acquisition will expand protected land holdings in the upper Tar-Pamlico River Basin and SNHA while contributing to the WRC Game Land Program. Proposed CWMTF match of \$4,400,000 and confirmed WRC match of \$6,220,000.
16	WRC	Roanoke River International Paper - Blackjack Swamp Tract	Northwest of Lewiston; Bertie County	\$124,149	91	Purchase tract and incorporate into a larger landscape protection project. Enact land management activities on the complex which will benefit water quality and the unique natural communities by incorporating it into the NC WRC Game Lands Program. Provide research, hunting, fishing, trapping and wildlife observation opportunities. Proposed CWMTF match of \$6,900,000 and confirmed WRC match of \$1,981,215.

